The GCOS Cooperation Mechanism (GCM) was established to identify and make the most effective use of resources available for improving climate observing systems in developing countries, particularly to enable them to collect, exchange, and utilize data on a continuing basis in pursuance of the UNFCCC. In recent years, several countries have provided funds and participated on the Donor Board. The GCOS sponsors (WMO, IOC, UNEP, and ICSU) are seeking additional countries willing to participate towards the goal of improved climate observing networks in developing countries.

Since 2005, the GCM has received and distributed over 3 million USD in support of the GCOS networks, primarily for the atmospheric domain through the GCOS Surface Network (GSN) and GCOS Upper-Air Network (GUAN). As is evident from the examples below, the support provided has been wide-ranging and covers all aspects of the observing system life-cycle.

And it doesn’t stop here! There is an ongoing and increasing need for support to the climate observing networks. We need a greater focus on sustainable, multi-purpose observations at the national level, covering all the Essential Climate Variables.